

Claims:

1. Canceled
2. Canceled
3. Canceled
4. Canceled
5. Canceled
6. Canceled

7. (Currently Amended) A feeding tube and CO₂ detecting machine combination comprising:

an elongated patient feeding tube presenting a distal end adapted for insertion into a patient and a proximal portion designed to remain outside the patient, said tube being of sufficient length to extend from outside the patient, past the pharynx and into the patients esophagus; and a CO₂ detecting machine operably coupled with said proximal portion of said tube so that the presence of CO₂ adjacent said distal end may be detected when the tube is inserted into a patient, said CO₂ detecting machine for detecting and determining the amount of ambient or respiration CO₂.

8. (Original) The combination of claim 7, including a fixture operably coupled with said proximal portion, said machine coupled with said fixture.

9. (Original) The combination of claim 8, said tube presenting a proximal end, said fixture comprising a tubular, bifurcated body presenting a pair of tubular legs, one of said legs secured to said proximal end, the other of said legs in communication with the interior of said tube.

10. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim 9, including one or more intermediate coupling members for connecting said fixture and said machine.

11. Canceled

12. Canceled

13. Canceled

14. Canceled

15. Canceled

16. (Original) A fixture for connection to the proximal end of a feeding tube, said fixture comprising a bifurcated body presenting first and second tubular legs, said first leg having a connection end adapted for attachment to said proximal end to form a continuation thereof, said second leg in communication with the first leg and including at least one intermediate coupling member adapted for connection with a CO₂ detecting machine, said fixture further including a guide wire extending through said first leg and feeding tube, there being a guide wire mount removably secured to an end of said first leg remote from said connection end.